

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" as follows:

The present patent application is a continuation of Application No. 09/750,076, filed December 29, 2000; and is also a continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/879,192, filed June 13, 2001, which is a continuation of Application No. 09/084,958, filed May 28, 1998 (now U.S. patent No. 6,266,546), which is a continuation of Application No. 08/479,352, filed June 7, 1995 (now U.S. patent No. 5,803,908), which is a continuation of Application No. 08/317,726, filed October 4, 1994 (now U.S. patent No. 5,499,627), which is a divisional of Application No. 08/011,882, filed February 1, 1993 (now U.S. patent No. 5,372,136), which is a continuation of Application No. 07/598,169, filed October 16, 1990 (abandoned); and is also a continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/771,596, filed January 30, 2001, which is a continuation of Application No. 09/244,756, filed February 5, 1999 (now U.S. patent No. 6,181,958), which claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/073,784, filed February 5, 1998), all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

Amend the paragraph at page 18, lines 7- 19, as follows:

In order to use indicator dilution techniques to measure vascular access flow rates during routine hemodialysis, the indicator must be injected upstream and its concentration detected downstream in the blood flowing through the vascular access site 14. Reversing the dialysis blood lines 16a and 16b during the hemodialysis treatment permits application of indicator dilution by direct injection of the indicator into the dialysis venous tubing 16b. Because the TQ_a sensor 12 can detect a dilution signal downstream of the venous needle 24 through the skin, a unique application of indicator dilution principles permits determination of the vascular access flow rate without reversal of the dialysis blood lines 16a and 16b. Various methods of measuring vascular access blood flow rate, as well as a method for locating accesses and grafts and localizing veins in normal patients, using the TQ_a sensor 12 are described in co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 09/750,122 (published U.S. application No. US-2002-0128545-A1) entitled "Method of Measuring Transcutaneous Access Blood Flow," filed [on even date herewith, Attorney Docket P65685US0] December 29, 2000, which is incorporated herein in its entirety.

Amend the paragraph at page 22, lines 3-6 as follows:

Due to the depth of the access site 14, in order for the cross-section of the access site 14 to be enclosed by the glowball 130a of the inboard emitter 102a seen by the inboard detector 104a, the spacing between the inboard emitter 102a and the inboard ~~and outboard detectors~~ detector 104a ~~and 104b~~ is typically 24 mm.